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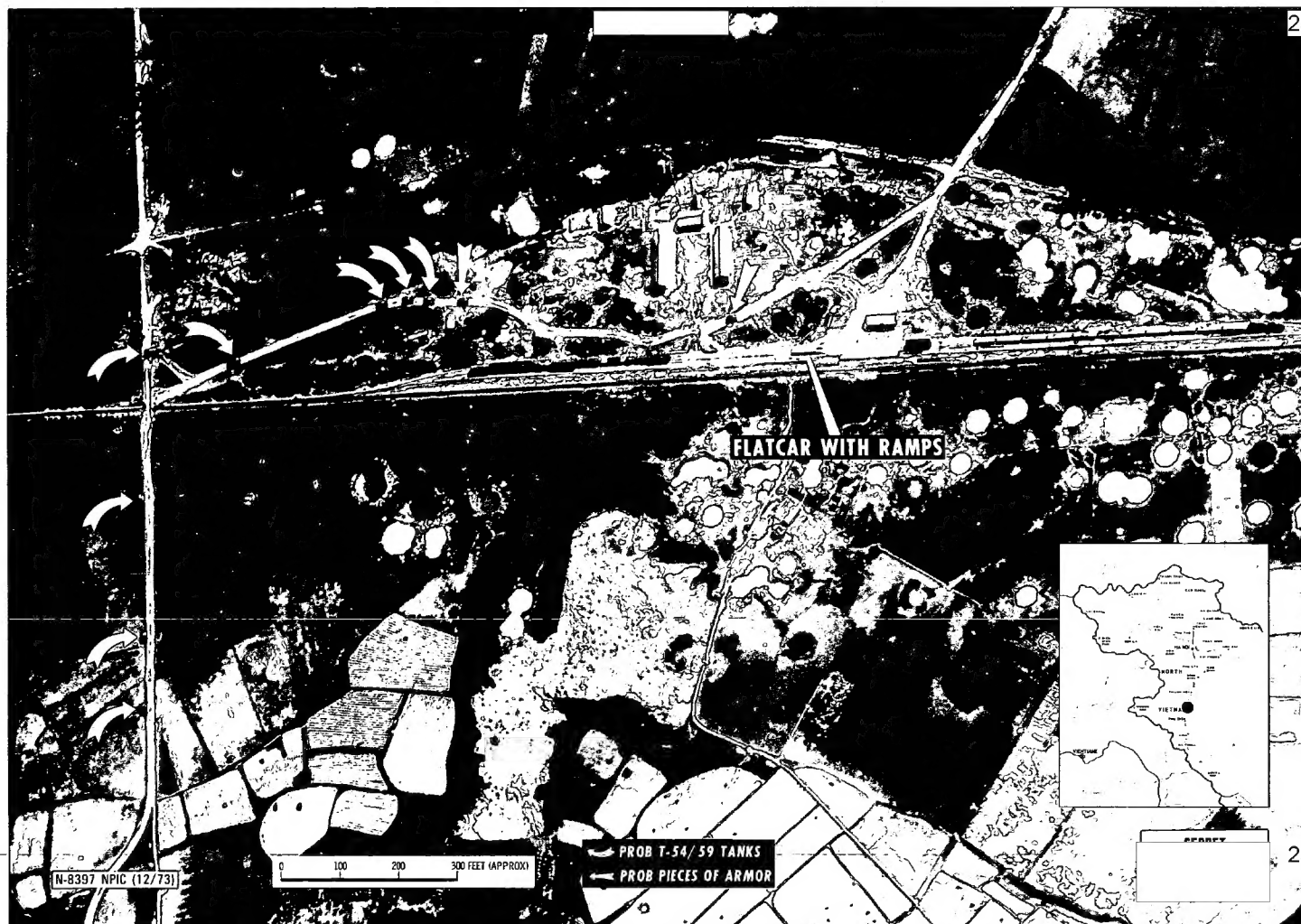
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# ARMOR ACTIVITY CONG PHU RAILROAD SIDING, NORTH VIETNAM 19-27N 105-46E

MISSION GS-SB0032, 3 DECEMBER 1973



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REFERENCE TO: MISSION GS-SB0032 ARMOR ACTIVITY  
CONG PHU RAILROAD SIDING, NORTH VIETNAM

1. SIGNIFICANCE: FIRST IDENTIFICATION OF ARMOR AT A RAIL FACILITY  
IN THE NORTH VIETNAMESE PANHANDLE SINCE THE  
VIETNAMESE CEASE-FIRE.

2. LOCATION: CONG PHU RAILROAD SIDING [ ] IS  
APPROXIMATELY 21 NAUTICAL MILES (NM) SOUTH OF  
THANH HOA AT 19-27-35N 105-46-07E.

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3. REMARKS: THE CONG PHU SIDING IS APPROXIMATELY HALFWAY  
BETWEEN THANH HOA AND VINH AND HAS NOT BEEN  
ESTABLISHED AS A SIGNIFICANT INDICATOR OF  
TRANSSHIPMENT ACTIVITY. IT WAS REPEATEDLY  
BOMBED PRIOR TO THE CEASE-FIRE BUT HAS NOW  
BEEN RESTORED.

SINCE THE CEASE-FIRE AN INCREASING AMOUNT OF  
ARMOR HAS BEEN OBSERVED IN OPEN STORAGE AT  
INSTALLATIONS IN CENTRAL NORTH VIETNAM AS WELL  
AS IN SEVERAL SMALL PARKS IN THE PANHANDLE.

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A SEARCH OF VISIBLE PORTIONS OF THE RAIL LINE  
BETWEEN THANH HOA AND VINH REVEALED NO ARMOR OR  
WEAPONS AT RAIL FACILITIES EXCEPT AT THAT SEEN  
AT CONG PHU.

4. NEGATION DATE:

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5. FIRSTIDENTIFICATION:

TANKS AT THE CONG PHU SIDING - THIS MISSION

6. MISSION READOUT:

EIGHT TANKS, PROBABLY T-54/59, AND TWO OTHER  
PROBABLE PIECES OF ARMOR WERE OBSERVED AT THE CONG PHU RAILROAD  
SIDING ON PHOTOGRAPHY OF [ ] THE TANKS WERE ON ACCESS  
ROADS TO THE SIDING AND ON AN UNNUMBERED ROUTE NORTH OF THE SIDING.  
THE RAIL SIDING CONSISTS OF TWO SETS OF TRACKS ON THE EAST SIDE OF  
THE MAIN RAIL LINE BETWEEN THANH HOA AND VINH. ROLLING STOCK AT  
THE SIDING INCLUDED TWO DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES, 15 FLATCARS, (THREE  
WITH COVERED MATERIALS), FIVE GONDOLAS, TWO BOXCARS AND SEVERAL DESTROYED/  
DAMAGED RAILCARS.

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A SET OF RAMPS EXTENDS FROM THE END OF ONE EMPTY FLATCAR. TRACK  
SCARS ON THE GROUND LEADING FROM THE RAMP INDICATED RECENT TRANSLOADING  
ACTIVITY.

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NO TANK TRANSPORTERS OR ARMOR STORAGE WAS OBSERVED NEAR THE  
SIDING.

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ENLARGEMENT FACTOR: 25X

IEG/SGD/SAB

COMMENTS AND QUERIES REGARDING THIS REPORT ARE WELCOMED. THEY MAY BE  
DIRECTED TO THE IMAGERY ANALYST [REDACTED] OF THE SOUTH ASIA BRANCH,  
SGD/IEG/NPIC, CODE 143, [REDACTED]

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SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES  
AND METHODS INVOLVED



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**ARMOR ACTIVITY  
CONG PHU RAILROAD SIDING, NORTH VIETNAM  
19-27N 105-46E**

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